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THE PUTNAM ANNIVERSARY

The seventieth birthday of Professor Frederic Ward Putnam was made the occasion for presenting him with an anniversary volume of Anthropological Essays contributed by his friends and associates. The publication of this sumptuous volume was made possible by a fund contributed for this purpose by some of Professor Putnam's many friends. Professor Franz Boas and Mr F. W. Hodge had immediate charge of bringing out the volume.

The contributions cover the whole field of anthropology, including somatology, archeology, ethnology, sociology, religion, folk-lore, and linguistics. A bibliography of Professor Putnam's writings is also included in the volume. The contributors of the articles are A. L. Kroeber, J. Walter Fewkes, C. C. Willoughby, W. C. Mills, C. W. Mead, W. K. Moorehead, M. H. Saville, G. B. Gordon, G. H. Pepper, Miss Alice C. Fletcher, C. P. Bowditch, A. M. Tozzer, C. Peabody, Mrs Zelia Nuttall, P. E. Goddard, S. A. Barrett, A. Hrdlička, F. Boas, R. B. Dixon, J. R. Swanton, H. I. Smith, G. A. Dorsey, G. L. Kittredge, F. N. Robinson, C. H. Toy, and Frances H. Mead.

The *Festschrift* was presented at a dinner held in honor of Professor Putnam at the Hotel Somerset, Boston, on Saturday, April 17, 1909. Professor C. H. Toy presided and introduced the speakers.

President Charles W. Eliot, representing Harvard University, was the first speaker. He touched upon the many difficulties which surrounded the early attempts of Professor Putnam in establishing the teaching of Anthropology in Harvard University, the way these difficulties were overcome, and the gratifying results of Professor Putnam's work. He spoke of the growth of the Peabody Museum from small beginnings and the development of research connected with the Museum, and he drew a parallel between the pioneer work of Asa Gray in botany and Professor Putnam in anthropology. Furthermore he expressed his pleasure at seeing a bright future for Anthropology at Harvard.

Professor Franz Boas, through whose initiative the volume was undertaken, was the second speaker. He read a long list of the learned societies which had sent felicitations to Professor Putnam on this occasion. These included various learned bodies of the United States, South America, England, Sweden, France, Germany, and Italy. Dr Boas said in part :

"I consider it a great privilege to be allowed to express to you the good wishes of your many friends—those here assembled, and of the many more who could not join us to-night to do honor to you. Many years of enthusiastic work, not only in your chosen field of science but also in behalf of every subject that has appealed to your generous sympathy, have knit firmer bonds between you and your wide circle of friends. I wish to give expression particularly to the feelings of those who are working with you toward the advancement of Anthropology. When we look back upon the growth of our science during the last forty years, three names stand out prominently among American anthropologists,—your own, that of John Wesley Powell, and that of Daniel Garrison Brinton. We owe to you the development of steady, painstaking methods of field research and of care in the accumulation of data; not detached from the ends sought by Powell, not without ideas as to their interpretation, but looking forward steadily and firmly toward a goal that cannot be attained in a few years, nor in a generation—that must be before our eyes all the time, and the attainment of which demands our whole energy. No trouble has been too great for you in the pursuit of this aim; and to your facility of creating enthusiasm among half-willing friends of science, Anthropology owes much of what it is. We can hardly turn to one of the great centers of anthropological research without finding that its very existence, or at least much of its work, is due to your inspiring personality. It is not for me to speak of the work that you have built up in Harvard University, but I have been witness to the success of your inspiration in Chicago and in New York. Without your unselfish work for the World's Fair, the Field Museum of Natural History would not be what it is. You laid the ground for the anthropological work of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and the periods of its great anthropological activity were when you were there. In the Far West, in California, anthropological work has grown up under your influence and under your watchful eye. If I were to count the institutions that have benefited from your wise council, I might go on without end. Much as you have thus done for the advancement of Anthropology, we should not do justice to you if we were to forget the personal influence that you have exerted upon all those whose good fortune it has been to work with you. Through your kindly interest in his scientific work and in his personal welfare, you have succeeded in making every one of us your warm personal friend. It has been our desire to give permanent expression to our feeling of gratitude to you; and it seemed to us that this could be done in no better way than by presenting you with a book

containing some of the results of the investigations of your former collaborators and of those who continue work in your special field of research. Your many friends here and abroad, personal friends, patrons of science, institutions in whose behalf you have labored, and your colleagues and collaborators have joined in the preparation of the book that I have the honor to present to you in their behalf. It is meant to be a token of our friendship and gratitude, and a witness for all time to come, not only of the important services that you have rendered to science, but also of the bonds of friendship that you have established between yourself and your younger colleagues."

Professor Putnam accepted the volume and expressed with deep feeling his appreciation of the honor shown him.

President-elect A. Lawrence Lowell followed. He spoke of the opportunities which Professor Putnam had enjoyed of opening an entirely new field of research and of developing a new science which had come to be of such great importance, an opportunity not given to many.

Dr C. S. Minot spoke of the zoological side of Professor Putnam's work, of his student days under Louis Agassiz, and his work on birds and fishes. He also commented on the part played by Professor Putnam in establishing the *American Naturalist* and the furthering of scientific work by means of its publication.

Dr W J McGee, representing the Anthropological Society of Washington, was the next speaker. He said in part:

"I desire especially to signalize one feature of Professor Putnam's career which seems to me distinctively national and permanent in character. Throughout the entire formative period of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Professor Putnam was permanent Secretary, practically the sole continuous officer of the Association; and his efforts in its behalf were ceaseless and constantly successful. This, too, was the formative period of American science. Now what the Association (which I regard as our most typical and most useful scientific institution) would have become without Putnam — who can say? Certainly his impress is large; certainly its character and standing must in no small measure be credited to him. And what American science would have been without the Association — who can say? Certainly its character and prestige are the greater because of the work of the Association and because of Putnam's efforts in its behalf. It is doubly pleasant for one coming from another center of thought to acknowledge the debt of the nation to a man and to an institution that have done so much toward preparing the way for that larger knowledge of humanity made necessary by the modern view of nature in which the resources loom so large."

Professor R. B. Dixon was the next speaker. He touched upon the work of Professor Putnam in establishing the Division of Anthropology at Harvard and the prominent part he has played from the very beginnings in the establishment and development of instruction in Anthropology in the University.

Professor Putnam then made a few closing remarks of a reminiscent nature of his early life as a naturalist and the value throughout his life of the instruction received under Agassiz and the debt which he owes his former teacher for whatever he has been able to accomplish in his scientific career. He spoke of the enjoyment he himself has taken in seeing in his lifetime his own students occupying places of honor in the scientific world.

The dinner came to a close only after repeated good wishes had been expressed to Professor Putnam for a long continuance of his activities in the field of science.

A. M. T.



J. M. Putnam